

Privacy and the Age of Social Media

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Information and Privacy
Commissioner of Ontario

Commissaire à l'information et à la
protection de la vie privée de l'Ontario

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Agenda

- What is the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario?
- The Difficulty in Defining “Privacy”
- What is Privacy in the Era of Social Media?
- Are Privacy Challenges the Same in Canada as Elsewhere?
- Promoting and Protecting Privacy, Today



The image features a solid teal background. On the left side, there is a large, semi-transparent speech bubble graphic with a rounded top and a pointed tail pointing towards the bottom left. The word "CAVEATE" is written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font, centered horizontally within the teal area.

CAVEATE

What is the IPC?

- Commissioner Kosseim appointed 2020
- Mandate to oversee Ontario access and privacy legislation
- Divided amongst policy, tribunal, and corporate services
- Amongst other elements of mandate:
 - Conduct research and provide comment
 - Educate Ontarians on privacy laws and current issues



Defining “Privacy”

- Where does privacy come from? What is it? Is it the same, everywhere?
- Does privacy really matter, or exist, anymore?

Privacy in the Social Media Era

- The implication of “blurred” context for public, semi-public, and private material
- Is it the content, or the metadata, that matters? And to whom?
- Privacy, permanency, and human memory

Privacy Challenges: Canada vs Elsewhere

- The “right” to privacy is in flux – how should it be settled? Should it be?
- The difficulty in understanding, or exercising, your rights
- Expansions in domestic and international collections of personal information for government investigations

Promoting and Protecting Privacy, Today

- Individual Protection: Build a plan with Security Planner
- Group Protection: Engaging local, provincial, or federal levels
- Group Education: Read, analyze, publish, share



Resources

- IPC Podcast: <https://www.ipc.on.ca/en/media-centre/info-matters-podcast>
- Federal Privacy Commissioner: <https://www.priv.gc.ca/en/blog/>
- Security Planner: <https://securityplanner.consumerreports.org/>
- CCA: *Vulnerable Connections: Expert Panel on Public Safety in the Digital Age*
- Parsons; “Law Enforcement and Security Agency Surveillance in Canada”
- Bennett; *The Privacy Advocates*
- Bennett and Raab; *The Governance of Privacy*



HOW TO CONTACT US

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